

## **ALL IN TO BUILD FOR OUR FUTURE**

*“The God of heaven Himself will prosper us: therefore we His servants will arise and build...So we built...for the people had a mind to work. A good person leaves an inheritance for their children’s children...”* **Nehemiah 2:20; 4:6; Proverbs 13:22**  
(NKJV)



### ***This Week’s Thought – December 17, 2017***

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*“You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you. Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD, the LORD himself, is the Rock eternal.”* **Isaiah 26:3-4**  
(NIV)

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The world offers an imperfect peace. It is temporary at best, as it comes in the form of materialism—a person—a pill—a bottle, a bad addiction—etc. This distortion of peace prolongs pain and leads to long-term disappointment and disillusionment. Artificial peace restricts or rejects the peace of the Almighty God, only to eventually come back and seek out what’s real.

Are you able to sleep peacefully at night? Do you have an assurance deep down in your soul that Christ is in control and can be trusted? If not, let loose of the idols of worry and pride—redirect your energies to eternal solutions. Answers from above bring peace that’s within. Where there is trust in the Lord there is rest from fighting the enemy.

*“When a man’s ways please the LORD, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.”*  
(Proverbs 16:7)

Accessing the Lord’s peace begins by first making peace with Him. In humble surrender and submission we unlock the control of our hearts to Christ and trust Him to give us what we need to follow Him and serve others. When we exchange our agenda for His agenda—in total trust—we in turn receive the peace of God. Peace follows trust. Peace with God results in the peace of God.

*“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.”* (Romans 5:1-2)

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God’s peace gives us confidence to follow Christ. Can the Prince of Peace be trusted to get you through this challenge with your child, relationship, finances, health or this season of suffering? Yes, of course He can and He wants you to experience His peace so you can be an ambassador of peace for Almighty God. People in turmoil who engage with your peaceful demeanor, want to know more about what you know and have.

So, use the gift of peace that Jesus has given you as a platform to proclaim His truth. Give away this gift to all who will receive it—and oh what a difference it will make if only one life receives its benefits! You don’t have to look far for candidates: home, work, church, social gatherings, social media, sick and shut in, etc. The perfect peace of God cuts through confusion and keeps your mind and heart on Jesus.

*“Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue.” (2 Peter 1:2-3)*

**Application:** What area of my life do I need to trust Jesus and rest in His quiet peaceful presence?

**Prayer of reflection you might pray this week: “Lord, please open my eyes to see those around me that are in need of compassion. Compel me to listen to them, to hear their needs. Give me the heart to be interested in their troubles and provide for me the means to help them. I want to have that kind of heart for the world that I will do all I can to be a voice for the oppressed, a giver to the poor, an encouragement for the disabled. Let me be the example of You to them. Let me be the light that they see so that You come through. Open the hearts of those around me to create a better world by providing for those that cannot care for themselves. This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate name of Jesus. Amen!”**

*“And then God answered: "Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time.” Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)*

Yours in Christ, Pastor King